

Message Text

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14-11

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10

SAM-01 OMB-01 AID-05 SR-02 ORM-01 /085 W

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R 300504Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5584

INFO CINCPAC

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS CANBERRA 2645

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AS, VS, VN, PINT, PFOR

SUBJ: HANOI-SAIGON CABLES OPPOSITION LEADERS APRIL 29 STATEMENTS

REF: CANBERRA 02614

1. ON APRIL 29 OPPOSITION LEADER FRASER ACCUSED THE WHITLAM GOVERNMENT OF CAUSING GREVIOUS DAMAGE TO RELATIONS BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE OF THE CABLES WHICH WERE SENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSIES IN HANOI AND SAIGON. HE SAID: QTE. THIS PARTICULAR ACTION SUPPORT OF NORTH VIET-NAM BEHIND OUR BACKS, SECRETLY IS BOUND TO CAUSE GREVIOUS DAMAGE TO AUSTRALIAN-US RELATIONS. END QTE

2. COUNTRY PARTY LEADER ANTHONLY SAID THAT THE WHITLAM GOVERNMENT WAS QTE BENDING BACKWARDS TO ACCOMMODATE THE VIEWS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. END QTE.

3. DEPUTY OPPOSITION LEADER LYNCH SAID: QTE THE PRIME MINISTER'S RESPONSE TO THE REFUGEE PROBLEM HAS BEEN DESPICABLY COLDBLOODED. NEARLY 4,000 SOUTH VIETNAMESE APPLIED TO
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ENTER AUSTRALIA. ONLY 342 WERE APPROVED FOR ENTRY AND ONLY 76

HAVE ACTUALLY ARRIVED IN AUSTRALIA. THE REST HAVE BEEN
ABANDONED.

4. QTE IT APPEARS CLEAR THAT MR. WHITLAM MISLED THE PARLIA-
MENT ON APRIL 9 WHEN HE CLAIMED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S APP-
ROACHES TO HANOI AND SAIGON WERE SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME.

5. QTE. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN SIDES WITH
THE HANOI REGIME IN ITS AGRESSION AGAINST SOUTH VIETNAM.

6. QTE. IT HAS EVEN OFFERED ADVICE TO THE PROVISIONAL
REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT ON HOW TO JUSTIFY THE COMMUNIST
MILITARY OPERATION.

7. QTE. MR. WHITLAM'S REFUSAL TO HELP THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE
REFUGEES DERIVES SIMPLY FROM HIS WISH NOT TO OFFEND HANOI
AND HIS GOVERNMENT'S OPEN SUPPORT FOR A COMMUNIST MILITARY
VICTORY. END QTE.

8. TEXT OF ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER MORRISON'S STATEMENT ON
THE CABLE AFFAIR AND EXCERPTS FROM PRESS COMMENTS FOLLOW.
GREEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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